

→ gration and education in equal measure.

But let's hope that each potential governor is thinking on a scale as big as the problems themselves. Tweaks can certainly help. Start by restoring state funding for higher education to pre-recession levels. Invest in and coordinate with the state's best research universities: Case Western, Ohio State, and the University of Cincinnati. Fix the shameful fact that Ohio ranks dead last in the Midwest in supplying need-based college financial aid.

Still, the most important step is realizing just what Ohio is up against. When Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance way back in 1787, it didn't just carve the Midwest into Ohio and her sister territories—it made education and inclusion a central part of their identities.

The Ordinance was a federal bill, of course, but it can still provide a model of ambition and moral purpose. It can remind us how big the challenges are and how big the solutions need to be. And if we fail? Forget making Ohio great again. We'll simply continue managing Ohio's decline. ☹



CORNER SHOT Autumn in the Queen City is nothing short of magic. Photographer Lance Adkins, using medium format film, captured the photographic proof at a vibrant Spring Grove Cemetery in 2016. —K.S.

won a spot to play it professionally. I graduated Peabody and found myself in a position of *How am I going to pay my rent?* I saw an ad for a viola position in the Baltimore Symphony, so I borrowed a viola from the school. [Laughs] I think because this was my first audition ever, I didn't realize how hard these things are. And it was on an instrument I didn't play. It was so surreal that I'm not sure I had time to get nervous.

What gave you the itch to compose? Violinists, pianists, cellists—they have quite an abundance of incredible concertos. Violists, we have a few.

Your concerto is based on *Don Quixote*. I took the piece that is going to be played after, Richard Strauss's "Don Quixote," as my launching pad. And being from Puerto Rico, this book is required reading. [Strauss is] actually telling a story from the book—you hear the story in music form. I was doing it more from the psychology of who the person was, trying to represent that through music.

And when you're not on stage? I love to play drums and electric guitar. A lot of my inspiration for how I play and how I approach music not only came from composers like Beethoven and Tchaikovsky, but also very much people like Van Halen. And when it comes to how to spin melody, people like Julio Iglesias. And the Beatles, of course the Beatles.

—ALYSSA KONERMANN

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PARKS & REC

STRAW MEN

If you love Halloween but aren't so much into the haunted house scene, opt for a less frightening stroll through Scarecrow Row at Otto Armleder Park. It's fall fun the whole family can enjoy. —MAIA ANDERSON



7: Years ago Jill Bohl had the idea for Scarecrow Row. She was riding her bike in the park and realized the tall grass had a striking resemblance to a cornfield.

2: Years Scarecrow Row has delighted park-goers in partnership with Cincinnati Recreation Commission and Great Parks of Hamilton County.

16: Days the scarecrows will be displayed. See them during daylight hours September 29 through October 14.



5: Scarecrows made from a single bale of hay.



101: Followers on Scarecrow Row's Facebook page. Bohl says she's received lots of positive feedback from people who say the creative scarecrows make them smile while riding through the park.



>24: Scarecrows on display this year. Cincinnati Public Library, Mt. Washington Rec Center, and Max's Meals & More are just a few entities that have created personalized scarecrows.

6: People on Scarecrow Row's organizing team.



\$0: Cost to see the scarecrows. All you need is a love for Halloween (a bike doesn't hurt either!)

2: Miles in the loop designated for Scarecrow Row. Walk or bike the trail to see the parade of witches and Frankensteins.

